

Psalms, readings and collect

Date: 31st March – Easter Day

Obviously on Easter Day, people will use the Act of Spiritual Communion; but for those who wish to say an evening office, provision is included here.

Office

Psalm:

(114) WHEN Israel came out of Egypt : and the house of Jacob from among the strange people,

2 Judah was his sanctuary : and Israel his dominion.

3 The sea saw that, and fled : Jordan was driven back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams : and the little hills like young sheep.

5 What aileth thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest : and thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back?

6 Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams : and ye little hills, like young sheep?

7 Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord : at the presence of the God of Jacob;

8 Who turned the hard rock into a standing water : and the flint-stone into a springing well.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Reading:

A Reading from the Song of Solomon.

"I will rise now and go about the city, in the streets and in the squares; I will seek him whom my soul loves." I sought him, but found him not. The watchmen found me, as they went about in the city. "Have you seen him whom my soul loves?" Scarcely had I passed them, when I found him whom my soul loves. I held him, and would not let him go until I had brought him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me. I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the gazelles or the hinds of the field, that you stir not up nor awaken love until it please. Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is strong as death, jealousy is cruel as the grave. Its flashes are flashes of fire, a most vehement flame. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it. If a man offered for love all the wealth of his house, it would be utterly scorned.

Collect of the day:

Almighty God, Who through Thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: We humbly beseech Thee, that as by Thy special Grace preventing us Thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by Thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect; through Jesus Christ Thy Son our Lord; Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, throughout all ages world without end. Amen.

Act of Spiritual Communion

Collect:

God of undying life, by Your mighty hand and raised up Jesus from the grave and appointed Him Judge of the living and the dead. Bestow upon those baptized into His Death the power flowing from His Resurrection, that we may proclaim near and far the pardon and peace You give us. Grant this through Jesus Christ, our Passover and our Peace, Who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, throughout all ages world without end. Amen.

First Reading:

A Reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation any one who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the word which he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace by Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), the word which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses to all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and made him manifest; not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that he is the one ordained by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that every one who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Psalm:

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; ♦ his mercy endures for ever.
Let Israel now proclaim, ♦ 'His mercy endures for ever.'
'The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds; the right hand of the Lord raises up; ♦
the right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds.'
I shall not die, but live ♦ and declare the works of the Lord.
The stone which the builders rejected ♦ has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing, ♦ and it is marvellous in our eyes.

Gospel:

A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint John.

On the first day of the week Mary Mag'dalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first; and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went

into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying, and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not know the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.